

To: Fells, Sandy[Fells.Sandy@epa.gov]
From: Mylott, Richard
Sent: Thur 10/24/2013 8:35:24 PM
Subject: RE: For your review -- EPA response to OEAAE Request for info - successes in first 100 days

thanks for handling this!

Richard Mylott
Office of Communications and Public Involvement
U.S. EPA Region 8
303-312-6654

From: Fells, Sandy
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2013 2:30 PM
To: Cantor, Howard; McGrath, Shaun
Cc: Smith, Paula; Mylott, Richard; Shanahan, Mike
Subject: RE: For your review -- EPA response to OEAAE Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Hi, Howard -- To recap the changes I made . . .

Re the ND UIC item -- I noticed that the "first in the nation" comment was initially in the headline; so I deleted it from there and moved it to open the paragraph.

Re the Flood assistance -- I took out several details and deleted beginnings of new sentences with connecting phrases.

Please let me know if you have other suggestions. Unfortunately, all items are still over the 4-lines requested.

Thanks,

Sandy

Climate Panel -- August 14, 2013

Region 8 convened a panel of Colorado experts to discuss perspectives on a collaborative and scientific approach to making the President's Climate Action Plan a reality in the West. The event was publicized via invitation to business and industry, interest groups, federal-, state-, local- and tribal- government entities, and academia (including CU students). U.S. Senator Mark Udall opened the session and introduced EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy who spoke about the President's Plan and EPA's involvement. The panel discussion was moderated by EPA Regional Administrator Shaun McGrath. Panel members were: former Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, currently Director of the Center for the New Energy Economy at Colorado State University; Tisha Schuller, President & Chief Executive Officer of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association; and Brad Udall, Director of the Getches-Wilkinson Center at the University of Colorado School of Law. Each panel member gave a short presentation on their organization's information, interests and ideas regarding the President's Climate Action Plan, followed by the panel addressing questions from the audience as time permitted. The event was extremely well attended, and EPA received extensive positive feedback on the event.

Primacy application from ND for delegation of UIC Class VI

EPA anticipates making a final decision on this primacy application in 2014. If approved, North Dakota would become the first state in the nation to obtain UIC Class VI primacy. Background: A *Federal Register* notice was signed by the Regional Administrator and published August 9, 2013, stating that the EPA Office of Water (OW) received a formal Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class VI (CO₂ geo-sequestration) primacy application from North Dakota on June 21, 2013 and announcing an opportunity for initial public comment and to request a public hearing. The comment period closed September 9. One substantive comment was received on the application's draft EPA/ND Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding EPA vs. State regulatory authorities. EPA has reached agreement on clarifying MOA language with the State in response to this comment and is preparing a second notice for EPA's decision on whether to grant primacy through formal rulemaking.

EPA Flood Assistance in Colorado

Since record floods hit Colorado in early September, EPA Region 8 has been involved in a variety of tasks to assess the damage and support local recovery efforts. Region 8 has been: 1) collecting orphan containers spread throughout the flood debris in several river drainages and multiple communities; 2) assisting in recovering and draining over 3,000 fuel tanks and other containers washed away by flood waters; 3) assisting the Army Corps of Engineers in evaluating the status of water and wastewater treatment plants; 4) repairing several tailings impoundments of former mining wastes impacted by the flooding where community water supplies are threatened; 5) assisting communities in their cleanup efforts through the collection and disposal of household hazardous waste; and 6) continuing to work with the Corps to expedite review and approval of "Nationwide" Clean Water Act Section 404 permits under emergency procedures to authorize dredging projects within 24 hours. These permits allow removal of flood-deposited materials from the waterbodies, and the material is being used as fill for repair of damaged infrastructure and roads.

Sandy Fells

Regional Congressional Liaison

EPA, Region 8, Denver

303-312-6604

From: Cantor, Howard

Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2013 1:56 PM

To: Fells, Sandy; McGrath, Shaun

Cc: Smith, Paula; Mylott, Richard; Shanahan, Mike

Subject: Re: For your review -- EPA response to OEAAE Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Thanks, Sandy.

Two main comments. First, on ND, can we move the last sentence (first in the nation) to the beginning? Second, the CO floods narrative needs to be shortened, as the request is for 3-4 lines each.

Thanks,
Howard

Howard Cantor
Deputy Regional Administrator
US EPA, Region 8
Phone: (303)312-6308

From: Fells, Sandy

Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2013 1:36:43 PM

To: McGrath, Shaun; Cantor, Howard

Cc: Smith, Paula; Mylott, Richard; Shanahan, Mike

Subject: For your review -- EPA response to OEAAE Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Hi, Shaun and Howard -- For your review and comment/approval before these are

submitted to HQ. The ND UIC deleg item was reviewed by Sadie, and the Colorado Flood Assistance item was compiled from information provided by EPR-ER and EPR-EP. Please feel free to edit as needed.

Sorry for the short turn around, but if you could respond to me and Paula before COB today, that would be great.

Thanks,

Sandy

Climate Panel – August 14, 2013

Region 8 convened a panel of Colorado experts to discuss perspectives on a collaborative and scientific approach to making the President's Climate Action Plan a reality in the West. The event was publicized via invitation to business and industry, interest groups, federal-, state-, local- and tribal- government entities, and academia (including CU students). U.S. Senator Mark Udall opened the session and introduced EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy who spoke about the President's Plan and EPA's involvement. The panel discussion was moderated by EPA Regional Administrator Shaun McGrath. Panel members were: former Colorado Governor Bill Ritter, currently Director of the Center for the New Energy Economy at Colorado State University; Tisha Schuller, President & Chief Executive Officer of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association; and Brad Udall, Director of the Getches-Wilkinson Center at the University of Colorado School of Law. Each panel member gave a short presentation on their organization's information, interests and ideas regarding the President's Climate Action Plan, followed by the panel addressing questions from the audience as time permitted. The event was extremely well attended, and EPA received extensive positive feedback on the event.

Primacy application from ND for delegation of UIC Class VI (carbon sequestration) goes to public comment (period ended Sept. 9) – would be first state to receive primacy for Class VI.

A *Federal Register* notice was signed by the Regional Administrator and published August 9, 2013, stating that the EPA Office of Water (OW) received a formal Underground Injection Control (UIC) Class VI (CO₂ geo-sequestration) primacy application from North Dakota on June 21, 2013 and announcing an opportunity for initial public comment and to request a public hearing. One substantive comment was received on the application's draft EPA/ND Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

regarding EPA vs. State regulatory authorities. EPA has reached agreement on clarifying MOA language with the State in response to this comment. EPA is preparing a second notice for EPA's decision on whether to grant primacy through formal rulemaking. EPA anticipates making a final decision on this primacy application in 2014. If approved, North Dakota would become the first state in the nation to obtain UIC Class VI primacy.

EPA Flood Assistance in Colorado

Since record floods hit Colorado in early September, EPA Region 8 has been involved in a variety of tasks to assess the damage and support local recovery efforts. The Region 8 Response Program has been collecting orphan containers spread throughout the flood debris in several river drainages and multiple communities. We have assisted in recovering and draining fuel tanks washed away by flood waters. Over 3,000 containers of various sizes have been recovered through EPA efforts. Early in the response, Region 8 deployed Water Emergency Response Teams to assist the Army Corps of Engineers in evaluating the status of water and wastewater treatment plants. In areas where flood waters raged through mountainous areas where former mining wastes are located, the Response Program is repairing several tailings impoundments impacted by the flooding where community water supplies are threatened. One of these tailings impoundments was redeveloped as a park under the Brownfields program and is a treasured asset of this small mountain community. The Mayor had asked us to make a priority of restoring their community park. In other areas, EPA has been assisting communities in their cleanup efforts through the collection and disposal of household hazardous waste. EPA continues to work with the Corps of Engineers Denver Regulatory office to expedite review and approval of Clean Water Act Section 404 permits for flood restoration activities in Colorado. The Corps is utilizing "Nationwide" permits issued under emergency procedures to authorize dredging projects in impacted waters; these permits allow removal of flood-deposited materials from the waterbodies, and the material is being used as fill for repair of damaged infrastructure and roads. Since September 27, three permit requests have been reviewed and approved (Idylwilde hydroelectric facility in Loveland, Lake Estes in Estes Park and Longmont Reservoir in Longmont) for these emergency dredging activities in the flood-impacted areas of Colorado. In each case, EPA Section 404 staff have reviewed, commented and approved these permit requests within 24 hours. The Corps continues to send daily updates on existing and anticipated permit activities in support of the flood recovery effort.

Sandy Fells

Regional Congressional Liaison

EPA, Region 8, Denver

303-312-6604

From: Smith, Paula
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 1:33 PM
To: Fells, Sandy; Mylott, Richard
Subject: RE: Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Sandy- Shaun's good with all three. Could you develop them further per request below?
Matthew can probably write or obtain a description of flood work. Thanks a million!

Paula J. Smith

Director, Office of Communication and Public Involvement

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8
1595 Wynkoop
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Phone: 303.312.6630
Cell: 303.882.9550

From: Fells, Sandy
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 12:25 PM
To: Smith, Paula; Mylott, Richard
Subject: RE: Request for info - successes in first 100 days

Hi, Paula -- Probably everybody has the same ideas.

- 1) Climate Panel discussion Aug. 14
- 2) Primacy application from ND for delegation of UIC Class VI (carbon sequestration) goes to public comment (period ended Sept. 9) – would be first state to receive primacy for Class VI

3) Flood recovery efforts

Sandy Fells

Regional Congressional Liaison

EPA, Region 8, Denver

303-312-6604

From: Smith, Paula
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 11:36 AM
To: Mylott, Richard; Fells, Sandy
Subject: FW: Request for info - successes in first 100 days
Importance: High

Fyi. Any other ideas?

Paula J. Smith

Director, Office of Communication and Public Involvement

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8
1595 Wynkoop
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Phone: 303.312.6630
Cell: 303.882.9550

From: Smith, Paula
Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 11:33 AM
To: Fells, Sandy
Subject: FW: Request for info - successes in first 100 days
Importance: High

Can I get your thoughts and assistance with this? Think we can draw from former Administrator and Hot Topic reports. I've got a call into Eddie on whether he is still feeding his Hot Topic DB.

Paula J. Smith

Director, Office of Communication and Public Involvement

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From: Reynolds, Thomas

Sent: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 9:06 AM

To: Assistant Administrators; Regional Administrators; Associate Administrators

Cc: PADs and Alternates; KeyesFleming, Gwen; Fritz, Matthew; Bloomgren, David; Rivas-Vazquez, Victoria

Subject: Request for info - successes in first 100 days

We are quickly coming up on the 100 day mark for Administrator McCarthy's term and we are working to capture some of the successes we've seen in that time. It is the Oct 27th or 28th depending on your count.

We've started a running list here OPA, based on our own thoughts, but wanted to hear directly from the AAs and RAs about what they have seen in their own programs and regions.

As we work to highlight some of the accomplishments, I'd ask you to send to me, David Bloomgren and Vicki Rivas-Vasquez 2-3 highlights from your own area of the sand box.

These should be short, 3-4 lines, similar in fashion to the weekly updates send to the

Administrator. It would be helpful to point out any tangible benefits, or projected benefits. I would not focus on distribution of grant money, but rather want those grants will lead to. Any particular clean-up process we have made on particular sites. New research that's started, or progress we have made on existing efforts.

There is a wide berth here, but the goal should be tangible, quantifiable (or eventually tangible and quantifiable) progress. I 'd avoid including is scheduling meetings, hosting round tables, etc.

I think there is clearly plenty of material to point to, and your personal input will help in this effort tremendously. Ultimately, this material will be used for internal comms pieces, for the Admin and Deputy Admin speeches, and social and media amplification.

Now the hard part: ideally, it would be useful to capture this material by COB on Thursday, Oct 24. I know that is a very short turnaround, but we aren't asking for much, so hopefully the lift won't be too heavy.

Many thanks in advance for your help, please let me know if you have any questions, and happy to discuss further at senior policy this afternoon.

Best,

Tom Reynolds

EPA Associate Administrator for External Affairs

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